

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221504

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 221504 SENT LISBON INFO LUANDA LOURENCO
MARQUES NOVEMBER 9:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221504

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PO

SUBJECT: REPORTED ARAB ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF PORTUGAL

REFS: LISBON 4040

LISBON 4103

1. REUTERS DESPATCH FROM DAMASCUS REPORTS ARAB STATES
HAVE AGREED INTRODUCE FULL ECONOMIC BOYCOTT AGAINST
PORTUGAL FOR ITS "HOSTILE ATTITUDE" AND BECAUSE IT MADE
ITS TERRITORY "TRANSIT CENTER FOR ISRAEL DURING OCTOBER
WAR." DEPARTMENT HAS NOT RPT NOT YET RECEIVED CONFIRMATION
THIS REPORT FROM U.S. OIL COMPANIES OR ANY OTHER SOURCE.

2. OUR RESPONSE TO QUERY IN GOP MEMO OF OCTOBER 13 RE
POSSIBLE OIL BOYCOTT WAS FOLLOWING:

"PORTUGAL IMPORTS 80,000 BARRELS CRUDE OIL PER DAY. OF
THIS 67,000 BARRELS, OR 84 PER CENT, COME FROM ARAB
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COUNTRIES. IF PORTUGAL SHOULD BE SINGLED OUT FOR OIL

BOYCOTT, USG WOULD APPROACH AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES AND WOULD EXPECT TO PERSUADE THEM TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE THAT PORTUGAL'S BASIC IMPORT REQUIREMENTS ARE MET."

3. IN VIEW REUTERS REPORT OF ARAB DECISION DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMALLY NOTIFIED GULF AND MOBIL OF USG COMMITMENT QUOTED ABOVE. GULF CONFIRMED THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE

BEEN GOING ON WITH GOP. GULF SAID GOP WANTS GULF TO UNDERTAKE TO SATISFY IMPORT REQUIREMENTS OF OVERSEAS TERRITORIES (ABOUT 15,000 BARRELS PER DAY) IN ADDITION TO NEEDS OF METROPOLE.

4. IF THE REPORTED EMBARGO AGAINST PORTUGAL IS CONFIRMED AND THE PORTUGUESE APPEAL TO US FOR ASSISTANCE, WE WILL MAKE FORMAL HIGH-LEVEL APPROACHES TO THE APPROPRIATE US OIL COMPANIES. RUSH

UNQUOTE. RUSH

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